

Multiple Choice Questions—Human Systems

Answer Key

1. How do you think the birth rates of Angola, Bolivia, and Cambodia would compare to those of the United States, Sweden, and Australia?
 - a. The first three countries would have lower birth rates.
 - b. The first three countries would have higher birth rates.
 - c. There would be no difference between the two groups.
 - d. It would be impossible to determine whether a real difference exists.

answer: b

2. Which country's population pyramid would most closely resemble a true triangle, with a very wide base that narrows up to a tiny top?
 - a. France
 - b. The United States
 - c. Afghanistan
 - d. Canada

answer: c

3. For people emigrating from a developing country to the United States, which of the following offers an example of a "push" factor?
 - a. The United States offers better job opportunities.
 - b. The United States accepts refugees and legal migrants each year.
 - c. Communities in developing countries often have strong cultural ties and traditions.
 - d. Developing countries tend to provide few economic opportunities for the average person.

answer: d

4. Which of the following does not provide a good example of how immigration might affect the characteristics of a place?
 - a. In some neighborhoods of London, street signs are written in both English and Bengali.
 - b. Increasing numbers of Mexican restaurants have opened throughout the United States.
 - c. Some people have protested the influx of new immigrants into their town.
 - d. Most Mexican Americans eat hamburgers and French fries.

answer: d

5. Which of the following best defines the word “culture” as it’s used in the study of geography?

- a. a group’s language, customs, religion, belief system, technology, art, food, and traditions
- b. an individual’s view of the world and its people
- c. art museums and symphony orchestras
- d. a sample of cells grown in a test tube

answer: a

6. Which of the following is an example of cultural convergence?

- a. People of all ages participate in the Greek festival in Athens.
- b. Most Italians are Catholic.
- c. People from all over Latin America gather to share their musical traditions.
- d. A group of Vietnamese artists have created a Web site to celebrate their artistic traditions.

answer: c

7. Which of the following is a secondary economic activity?

- a. selling insurance to a clothing factory
- b. sewing cotton clothing in a factory
- c. farming cotton
- d. promoting the annual Cotton Festival

answer: b

8. Which of the following examples does not describe how towns in the United States have changed over the past few decades?

- a. People tend to shop downtown more than they did 50 years ago.
- b. Some downtowns are now virtually deserted because people shop in malls on the outskirts of town.
- c. Many “factory towns” have suffered as plants closed or decreased their workforces.
- d. Increasingly, a town’s retail businesses are operated by corporations headquartered in other cities.

answer: a

9. Why have many factories in the United States shut down?

- a. Too many people have picketed the factories and boycotted their products.
- b. A shortage of labor in the United States has forced them to close.
- c. Many towns have tried to get rid of factories because they find them “ugly.”
- d. Labor is cheaper in other countries.

answer: d

10. Why would a new shopping center want to be able to map its market area?

- a. to find out the locations of potential customers
- b. to design its floor plan and parking lots
- c. to learn about new trends in advertising
- d. to cooperate with local radio stations

answer: a

11. Which of the following statements best illustrates the relationship between a colonizing country and its colony?

- a. The colonizing power always ensures the well being of the colony’s residents.
- b. The people of the colony generally benefit from an increase in job opportunities and higher salaries offered by the colonizing country.
- c. The colonizing power profits from the colony's natural resources.
- d. The economy of the colonizing country rarely benefits from economic activities in the colony.

answer: c

12. Which of the following factors might lead a farmer to move his or her farm to a new location?

- a. fewer conflicts with suburban developers
- b. the introduction of refrigerated rail cars
- c. steadily increasing farm profits
- d. increased access to the railroad or trucking routes in the farm’s current location

answer: b

13. How would the development of a new row of restaurants and a multiplex probably affect land values in a downtown area?

- a. values would decrease
- b. values would stay the same
- c. values would increase
- d. values would decrease at first, but then increase

answer: c

14. Which of the following statements best explains the emergence of cities?

- a. The development of agriculture allowed people to achieve a food surplus.
- b. People sought more accessible places to practice their religions.
- c. A merchant class emerged to sell agricultural produce and crafts.
- d. People needed military protection that cities could provide.

answer: a

15. Which statement best describes a city built according to the concentric zone model?

- a. Fred would prefer to shop and do his banking in a downtown business district, but there are no longer any businesses downtown.
- b. Alison lives in a small house on a hill downtown, from which she can see the skyscrapers of the distant suburbs.
- c. Joe lives in a high-rise apartment building in one part of the city and commutes by car to his job in a high-rise office building on the other side of town.
- d. Jennifer, along with 100,000 other people, commutes downtown from an outlying residential neighborhood.

answer: d

16. What is one impact of the growth of edge cities?

- a. Traffic increases substantially in areas several miles from the city.
- b. More businesses choose to locate their headquarters in the centers of large cities.
- c. People experience difficult commutes downtown each morning.
- d. Fewer people move to the suburbs.

answer: a

17. Which of the following is NOT a common reason for conflict between groups of people?

- a. religious differences
- b. scarcity of resources
- c. cultural convergence
- d. differences in opinion over how land should be used

answer: c

18. What of the following resulted from the way European powers divided African and Middle Eastern colonies after World War I?

- a. The colonies gained their independence.
- b. Religious groups within the colonies became increasingly tolerant of each other.
- c. The colonies were shaped according to cultural and language distinctions.
- d. Many colonies were home to numerous cultural groups that did not get along with each other.

answer: d

19. Why might Indonesia face special challenges in maintaining its national unity?

- a. It was once a Dutch colony.
- b. It's a long archipelago of tens of thousands of islands with great cultural and linguistic diversity.
- c. It is relatively square-shaped.
- d. It is the world's largest Muslim country.

answer: b

20. Which of the following best describes the United Nations?

- a. the body that oversees all the world's democracies
- b. an international alliance dedicated to protecting the world's economies
- c. an alliance of European and North American countries
- d. an alliance of countries that focuses on humanitarian and social concerns

answer: d